

Present law provides for the operation of video draw poker devices at qualified truck stops.

Present law requires the La. Gaming Control Board to revoke the license to operate video draw poker devices for a third or subsequent violation of allowing a person under the age of 21 to play or operate a video draw poker device at a licensed establishment, unless the licensee, his employee, or agent reasonably believed that the person was 21 years old.

Present law requires the board to revoke the license to operate video draw poker devices for a third or subsequent violation for allowing a person under the age of 21 to play or operate a video draw poker device at a licensed establishment when the licensee, his employee, or agent is shown to have known or reasonably believed he was allowing a person under the age of 21 years old to play or operate a video draw poker device, or for allowing a person under the age 15 years old to play or operate a video draw poker device at a licensed establishment regardless of what the licensee, his employee or agent knew or reasonably believed about the age of that person.

Proposed law would have required that when the board conducts a license revocation hearing for violations it determine whether or not there are extenuating circumstances under which the license should not be suspended or revoked.

Would have become effective August 1, 2012.

(Proposed to amend R.S. 27:319(B)(1)(a)(ii) and (b)(iii))

VETO MESSAGE: "Senate Bill No. 363 by Senator Martiny changes the law governing the mandatory revocation of a licensed entity after the licensee has three or more underage gaming violations.

Current law provides that for a third or subsequent violation, a license must be revoked if the licensee, his employee or agent knowingly allowed a person under the age of 21 to play a video draw poker device or allowed a person under the age of 15 to play a video draw poker device regardless of what the licensee knew about the age of the person.

Instead, this bill repeals this mandatory revocation provision and replaces it with a less stringent process.

It is important that licensed entities know that there are serious consequences for allowing minors to play video poker devices. I am concerned that this legislation would undermine this important safeguard in current law.

For this reason, I have vetoed Senate Bill No. 363 and hereby return it to the Senate."